

REMARKS

Claims 10, 11, 18, and 19 have been cancelled. Claims 12, 20, 26 and 27 have been amended. Claims 12 – 17 and 20 - 27 are pending in the application.

In the Office Action, claims 10, 11, 18, and 19 are provisionally rejected on the grounds of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 8 – 19 of copending Application No. 10/603,531. Also, in the Office Action, claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 4,783,271 to Silverwater. Additionally, in the Office Action, claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,904,163 to Inoue et al in view of US Patent No. 5,554,284 to Bartelt et al. Moreover, in the Office Action, claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,904,163 to Inoue et al in view of US Patent No. 5,554,284 to Bartelt et al as applied to claim 18, and further in view of US Patent No. 4,783,271 to Silverwater. Furthermore, in the Office Action, claims 12 – 17 and 20 – 26 are indicated as allowable if appropriately rewritten and claims 27 – 30 are indicated as allowed.

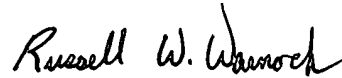
With respect to the provisional rejection of claims 10, 11, 18, and 19 on the grounds of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 8 – 19 of copending Application No. 10/603,531, Applicant is willing to submit a terminal disclaimer as appropriate to limit any patent issuing on the present application to be co-terminous with any patent that may issue embodying claims 8 – 19 of copending Application No. 10/603,531.

Applicants have cancelled claims 10, 11, 18, and 19. Also, each of claims 12 and 20 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the respective base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, with respect to the rejection of claims 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 4,783,271 to Silverwater, the rejection of claim 18 under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,904,163 to Inoue et al in

view of US Patent No. 5,554,284 to Bartelt et al, and the rejection of claim 19 under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,904,163 to Inoue et al in view of US Patent No. 5,554,284 to Bartelt et al as applied to claim 18, and further in view of US Patent No. 4,783,271 to Silverwater, Applicant respectfully submits that these rejections are now moot in view of the cancellation of claims 10, 11, 18, and 19 and the amendments of claims 12 and 20.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 12 – 17 and 20 - 27 are now in condition for allowance and early action toward that end is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted



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